



Klein Demands Immediate Investigation into Unacceptable Treatment of Veterans at Miami Hospital

Washington, DC – Congressman Ron Klein (FL-22) today called for an immediate investigation into reports that service members treated at a Veterans Administration hospital in Miami were exposed to deadly diseases such as hepatitis and HIV. According to published reports, over 3,000 veterans who received a colonoscopy at the Miami VA hospital between May 2004 and March 12, 2009 may have been exposed to health risks due to substandard service and sterilization of medical equipment.

“It is outrageous and unacceptable that our veterans would be subjected to such shocking mistreatment,” Klein said. “There must be a full investigation – beginning today – into how this could possibly happen, who was responsible and how we can ensure our hospitals are safe going forward. It is reprehensible that even after we discovered the scandal at Walter Reed, we could still have a situation where we fail our local veterans. Today’s startling announcement here in South Florida makes it clear that we have not yet fulfilled our responsibility to provide the highest quality medical treatment to our returning heroes. I will continue fighting every day to ensure that those who have worn the uniform of this country are treated with the highest levels of respect and dignity they have earned.”

Broward county veterans in Klein’s Congressional District receive their medical care at the VA hospital in Miami. Klein urged all veterans who may have been exposed to immediately call the 24-hour hotline at 305-575-7256 or 877-575-7256.

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